



# THE FIREBALL

Est. July 1971 ▶ Bentonville, AR

April 2011 ▶ Vol. 41 Issue 74



## ▶ Special Report

### The 457th Website Is Working For You

The website of the 457th Bomb Group was officially launched in December 2009. Since that time many pieces of valuable information have been added to the site, including photos, both historical and those of past reunions. It is a great tool to locate upcoming events or simply browse through the pages for a trip down memory lane.

Keep in touch with members of the group on the message board, where a sheet of V-mail stationary serves as the background to write your personal message.

The site is a work in progress and will continue to be updated. You will soon be able to find all the latest newsletters, as well as membership forms and registration paperwork related to upcoming events.

Visit the website today at [www.457thbombgroupassoc.org](http://www.457thbombgroupassoc.org)

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**457th BOMB GROUP** *the Fireball Outfit*

The official website of the 457th Bomb Group (H), 8th Air Force, which flew B-17's from Glatton Air Base, Conington, England between 1944 & 1945.

*This site is dedicated to the 457th Airmen who did not return from that last mission.*

▶▶ Visit [www.457thbombgroupassoc.org](http://www.457thbombgroupassoc.org)

## ► Conington News

### Parish Council Assumes Maintenance Efforts

In October 2010, the 457th Bomb Group Association received welcome news from the Conington Parish Council. The Council has agreed to assume maintenance responsibilities for the Glatton Memorial Monument. This maintenance effort will be financially supported by the Association, in part with funds generated by the *Friends of the 457th*. If needed, additional funds will be the responsibility of the 457th Bomb Group Association.

Historian, Tim Newell, has agreed to administer these funds. He will also work with the Parish Council to assure that the monument and grounds are



► ► Men of the 457th gather around the bronze plaque at the site of the water tower in Conington - 2008.

maintained in a manner which reflects the work and interests of the Association, as well as the residents of Conington. Additional contributions

for this ongoing project can be made to Tim Newell or Lori Barnett, treasurer of the 457th Bomb Group Association.

## 457th Bomb Group Association: Membership Dues & Subscription Form

### ► Dues

**Annual Dues:** \$25 per person (2 years)

**Life Dues:**

Age	Cost
under 60	\$110
61-65	\$90
66-70	\$75
71+	\$60

### ► Mail Form To:

make check payable to:

**Lori Barnett, Treasurer**

457th Bomb Group Association  
304 Old West Point Road  
Starkville, MS 39759

check one:

- New membership
- Renewal
- Address Change

_____		_____		_____	
Name		Nickname		Spouse	
_____		_____		_____	
Address		City		State Zip (+4)	
_____		_____		_____	
Phone		email			
<b>Are you a (check one):</b>					
<input type="checkbox"/> Fireballer		<input type="checkbox"/> Relative of a Fireballer		<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	
<b>If you are a relative:</b>					
_____			_____		
Name of Veteran			Relationship to you		
_____		_____		_____	
Birth Date of Veteran		Squadron #		Rank	
_____			_____		
Dates Assigned			Duties		
_____		_____		_____	
Plane Name		Plane #		Pilot's Name	
_____		_____		_____	
Plane Name		Plane #		Pilot's Name	
POW? / Evadee? _____		Captured Date: _____		Escape/Release Date: _____	
Retired Military? _____		Rank: _____			
Comments: _____					
_____					

► 2011 Savannah, GA

**457th Bomb Group Assoc.  
State-side Reunion**

**PRELIMINARY AGENDA**

(September 24-29):

► **September 24** .....Saturday  
Early Bird Pre-registration

► **September 25** .....Sunday  
Registration

► **September 26** .....Monday  
Mighty Eighth Museum  
Afternoon visit, with dinner

► **September 27** .....Tuesday  
Open Activities  
General Meeting  
Closing Banquet

► **September 29** .....Thursday  
Farewell Breakfast



►► 457th window in the Chapel of Fallen Eagles

# SAVANNAH 2011

Join us for the next  
**457th Bomb Group Association  
State-side Reunion**

**September 24 - 29, 2011**

Hilton Savannah Desoto  
Savannah, Georgia

Call Now for Reservations: . . . . .1-912-232-6018

Room Rate During Reunion: . . . . . \$99 per night

Room Rate Before/After Reunion: . . . \$139 per night

**IMPORTANT:** Reference the 457th Bomb Group Reunion when registering.

A complete agenda and registration form will be posted in the July **FIREBALL** Newsletter. You will also be able to locate the information online as it becomes available.



Watch for it at  
[www.457thbombgroupassoc.org](http://www.457thbombgroupassoc.org)

►► Chapel of Fallen Eagles at the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum

## ► Travel Fund

### English Travel Fund

The dedicated volunteers who represent the 457th Bomb Group in England are very important to the Association. Many of us are unable to attend the Mini-Reunions in Peterborough, and we are fortunate to be able to meet them and express our appreciation when they join us here in the States. This year, we expect several of our English historians to join us in Savannah.

The Association always sponsors a portion of their travel expenses with contributions to the **English Travel Fund**. September may seem far away, but it's not too early to contribute to this important event.

Contributions should be marked "English Travel Fund" and mailed to:

**Lori Barnett, Treasurer**  
457th Bomb Group Association

## ► In Memory

### Tom Goff

With regret, we report the passing of Tom Goff on January 24, 2011. Tom was Squadron Navigator for the 750th and flew two tours of combat. He will be buried at Arlington Cemetery. Although Tom was not active the last few years, he was a strong supporter of the Association. He was instrumental in coordinating the project of replacing the original Stone Airman in the All Saints Churchyard in Conington.

### Kenneth Burkhart

457th Bomb Group Veteran, Kenneth W. Burkhart, passed away on September 19, 2010. Major Burkhart retired from the U.S. Air Force and lived in Arizona since 1999.

## ► Officers & Appointments

<b>Joe Toth</b> President	jandjtoth@comcast.net 449 Sunset Lane, Pueblo, CO 81005	P: 719. 566. 1714
<b>John Pearson</b> Vice President	jonpearson@cavtel.net 1900 Lauderdale Drive C-315, Richmond, VA 23238	P: 804. 740. 2635
<b>Nancy Toth</b> Secretary	nancytoth@comcast.net 453 Sunset Lane, Pueblo, CO 81005-1140	P: 719. 564. 8599 F: 719. 544. 1067
<b>Lori Barnett</b> Treasurer	Lpbarnett223@aim.com 304 Old West Point Road, Starkville, MS 39759	P: 662. 324. 5632
<b>Joe De Luccia</b> Director - 2 year	jaadeeluu@aol.com 214 Cambridge Ave., Saddle Brook, NJ 07663	P: 201. 797. 9245
<b>Cliff Digre</b> Director - 4 year	rgriebenow@miscospeakers.com 4745 Vincent Ave. South, Minneapolis, MN 55410	P: 612. 920. 5662
<b>Will Fluman, Jr.</b> Director - 6 year	MR-SHORT-CUT@hotmail.com 132 Ore Bank Road, Dillsburg, PA 17019	P: 570. 971. 5757
<b>George Grau</b> Immed. Past Pres.	graub17@mchsi.com P.O. Box 1473, Gulf Shores, AL 36547-1473	P: 251. 968. 2673
<b>James Bass</b> Legal Advisor	jlbass@bassandbass.com P.O. Box 500, Carthage, TN 37030-0500	P: 615. 735. 1122 F: 615. 735. 3149
<b>Curt Musheno</b> Webmaster	webmaster@457thbombgroupassoc.org 2001 Heim Hill Road, Montoursville, PA 17754	P: 570. 974. 1940
<b>Chris Sechrist</b> Newsletter Editor	nephoto@embarqmail.com 36 Shank Road, Carlisle, PA 17015	P: 717. 776. 5313

## ► English Historians

<b>John Walker</b>	29 Chancery Lane, Eye, Peterborough, England PE6 7FY	P: 44 1733 222994
<b>Tim Newell</b>	tim.newell@ymail.com Virginia Cottage Church Lane, Conington, Peterborough, England PE7 3QA	P: 44 1487 830450
<b>Richard Pobgee</b>	richardpobgee@hotmail.com 42 New Road, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, England PE7 1SU	P: 44 1733 701872
<b>Chris Cronin</b>	chris_cronin@live.co.uk	

## ► Past Presidents

<b>1973-75:</b> William Willborn	<b>1986-87:</b> Clayton Bejot	<b>2001-03:</b> Will Fluman
<b>1976:</b> Howard Larsen (d)	<b>1988-89:</b> Donald Sellon	<b>2003-05:</b> Don Nielsen
<b>1977-79:</b> Bill Siler	<b>1990-91:</b> John Welch	<b>2005-07:</b> James Bass
<b>1980-81:</b> Edward Reppa (d)	<b>1992-93:</b> Roland Byers(d)	<b>2007-09:</b> George Grau
<b>1982-83:</b> Daniel Graham (d)	<b>1993-97:</b> Billy Hightower (d)	
<b>1984:</b> William Good (d)	<b>1997-99:</b> Lee Zimmerman	
<b>1985:</b> David Summerville(d)	<b>1999-01:</b> Craig Harris (d)	

## 2011 Calendar of Events:

- ▶ **April 5** .....  
Newsletter printed / mailed /  
posted on website
- ▶ **June 24** .....  
Newsletter article deadline
- ▶ **July 20** .....  
Newsletter printed / mailed /  
posted on website
- ▶ **August 31** .....  
Savannah registration due
- ▶ **September 24-29** .....  
2011 Reunion: Savannah, GA

## ▶ Editor's Report

### A note from Chris Sechrist

For the past twelve years Nancy Toth has been dedicated to keeping you, the reader, well informed and up-to-date with the latest Bomb Group events. She has provided an array of historic information within the pages printed over the years. We are all very grateful to Nancy for the hours of devotion that she has shown to the 457th Bomb Group.

A sincere *Thank You* from me personally. I have no doubt this sentiment is echoed by the entire membership.

### Future newsletter articles

There is something very special about listening to the stories told around the

tables at each reunion. You may not be able to attend every event but there is a way to get your story out.

I enthusiastically encourage EVERYONE to contribute articles to future **FIREBALL** Newsletters. Feel free to submit memoirs; family stories... past or present; or other bits of information you would like to add. Please submit your typed stories to me by the deadline date noted in the **Calendar of Events** of the newsletter. If I receive an article after the deadline I will hold it for the following paper.

This is your newsletter; bring it to life with your story!

### Contact

- ▶▶ *mail:* **Chris Sechrist**  
36 Shank Road, Carlisle, PA 17013
- ▶▶ *email:* **Chris Sechrist**  
nepphoto@embarqmail.com

### 457th Bomb Group Association

36 Shank Road  
Carlisle, PA 17015

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